

STRATEGIES FOR THE SAT MATH SECTION



FOR THE TEST



1. **READ EACH QUESTION CAREFULLY.**
2. **FOR COMPLICATED EQUATIONS,** ESTIMATE AN ANSWER **OR** PLUG IN THE MEDIAN ANSWER, ALWAYS **C**, TO ELIMINATE INCORRECT ANSWERS THAT ARE TOO HIGH OR TOO LOW.
3. **ALWAYS CHECK YOUR WORK IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOU FINISH THE PROBLEM.**
4. **WHEN POSSIBLE, WORK WITH FRACTIONS RATHER THAN DECIMALS.**
5. **SUBSTITUTE NUMBERS.**
6. **BE VIGILANT WITH NEGATIVE NUMBERS.** YOU WILL NOT RECALL THE ANSWER FOR BEING CLOSE.

If $n \neq 0$, then $\frac{100}{n} \times n =$

(A) 1
(B) n
(C) 100
(D) $100n$
(E) $100n^2$

WHAT IS THE SAT WRITING SECTION?

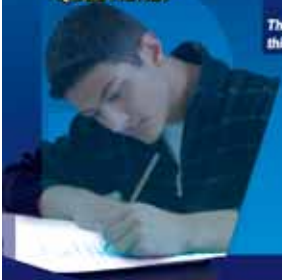


THE SECTION CONSISTS OF TWO PARTS — AN ESSAY AND 45 MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS.

I. THE PERSUASIVE ESSAY
You have 25 minutes to write a clear, well-supported essay based on a specific prompt.

II. MULTIPLE-CHOICE GRAMMAR QUESTIONS
You have 35 minutes to answer 45 questions that ask you to:

The essay counts for $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total points for this section.



WHAT IS THE SAT CRITICAL READING SECTION?

A single 20-minute section with 18 reading questions.
Two 25-minute sections with 9 sentence completions and 13 reading questions each.

Sentence completion questions test your **vocabulary**.
Sentence completion questions account for only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the points for the section.

Questions on reading passages test **reading comprehension** under pressure.
Most of the reading comprehension passages will be nonfiction and will usually express a particular point of view.

Questions on the reading passages will **NOT** be arranged in order of difficulty.



STRATEGIES FOR THE SAT CRITICAL READING SECTION



Sentence Completions

- ▶ If you are unable to define a word, don't eliminate it.
- ▶ Answer every sentence completion question—these take the least amount of time per question.
- ▶ Be wary of simple words that have difficult secondary definitions.

Reading Comprehension

- ▶ Shorter passages are generally more difficult.
- ▶ Make sure you understand **EXACTLY** what a question is asking.
- ▶ When reading the passage, identify the author's main point or thesis.
- ▶ If a passage is difficult, skim it first then refer back to it for specific questions.

THE BEST STRATEGY IS A ROBUST VOCABULARY!

STRATEGIES FOR THE SAT WRITING SECTION



FOR THE ESSAY

25 MINUTES

- ▶ Write a direct response to the prompt.
- ▶ Take a few minutes to plan out your essay on scratch paper.
- ▶ Avoid personal statements.
- ▶ Use SAT vocabulary words.
- ▶ Use specific examples from your studies (especially literature and history) to support your points.
- ▶ Organize! Use paragraphs to show structure. Use a five-paragraph formula if possible.

USAGE AND SENTENCE CORRECTION SECTIONS

- ▶ Do not rely on what sounds correct. The SAT tests formal, grammatically correct writing.
- ▶ Read sentences twice.
- ▶ Mark up sentences as much as possible.
- ▶ Be aware of secondary meanings of vocabulary words.
- ▶ Errors in agreement are often separated out by phrases.

PARAGRAPH CORRECTIONS

- ▶ Skim the reading.
- ▶ Refer to the portions that are specifically referred to in a question.
- ▶ Grammar and usage errors will be tested indirectly in the answer choices.
- ▶ Sentences must make sense within the context of the entire paragraph.



YOU HAVE 45 MINUTES FOR THIS SECTION

WHAT IS THE SAT MATH SECTION?



YOU LEARNED MOST OF THESE CONCEPTS BY THE 9TH GRADE!

There are three sections:
two sections of 20 multiple-choice questions and one section with 12 grid-in questions.

General concepts covered include absolute value, factors, exponents, and more.
Miscellaneous concepts covered include sets, tables and graphs, probability, and more.

You may use a calculator during the test.

Algebra concepts covered include inequalities, simultaneous equations, word problems, and more.

Geometry concepts covered include lines and angles, triangles, polygons, solid and coordinate geometry, and more.

No theorems!

